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HEALTH
3 OCT 1946

Ampthill Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

for the

YEAR 1944

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Sanitary Inspector

The Powage Press, Ltd., Aspley Guise, Beds.

Ampthill Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of laying before you my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary conditions prevailing in your District for the year ending December 31st, 1944.

This Report is drawn up in accordance with the Ministry of Health's circular 19/45, dated March 19th, 1945.

Section A. STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres – – – – – –	62,553
Population—Census for 1944 (estimated mid-year) –	20,220
Census for 1931 – – – – – –	17,483
Number of Inhabited Houses, end of 1943 – –	6,188
Rateable Value – – – – – –	£97,077
Sum represented by a Penny Rate – – –	£407/12/5

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The occupations of the inhabitants consist of farming, market gardening, and factory work. The villages of Woburn, Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath and Flitwick are residential districts.

A large number of persons work in the factories at Luton, and the brickyards at Stewartby and Marston Valley find employment for many of the inhabitants of adjacent villages which lie on the northern boundary of your district.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Total	Males	Females	
Live Births	Legitimate	353	192	161	Birth rate 18·3 per 1000 of resident population.
	Illegitimate	18	8	10	
Still Births	Legitimate	8	4	4	Birth rate 24·2 per 1000 Births (live and still).
	Illegitimate	1	1	0	
Deaths – –		215	107	108	Death rate 10·6 per 1000 resident population.

Birth rate for England and Wales is 17·6

Death rate for England and Wales is 11·6

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

(Headings 29 & 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List).

No. 29.	Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis – – –	0
No. 30.	Other Puerperal causes – – – –	0

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE FOR ENGLAND & WALES.

Abortion with Sepsis	—	0·31 per 1000 (live and still) births.
Abortion without Sepsis	—	0·09 ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
Puerperal Infections	—	0·28 ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
Others	—	1·25 ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

10 deaths among all Infants under one year of age, giving a death rate of 26.9 per 1000 live births.

8 deaths among the Legitimate Infants under one year of age, giving a death rate of 22·6 per 1000 live births.

2 deaths among the Illegitimate Infants under one year of age, giving a death rate of 111·1 per 1000 live births.

Deaths from	Cancer (all ages)	34
,, ,,	Measles (all ages)	0
,, ,,	Whooping Cough (all ages)	2
,, ,,	Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	1
,, ,,	Scarlet Fever	0
,, ,,	Diphtheria	0

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES.

	M.	F.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0
Whooping Cough	1	1
Diphtheria	0	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	0
Syphilitic Diseases	0	0
Influenza	0	1
Measles	0	0
Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis	0	0
Acute infectious encephalitis	0	0
Cancer of b: cavity and Oesophagus (M) Uterus (F)	2	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	3	3
Cancer of Breast	0	3
Cancer of all other sites	11	11
Diabetes	2	0
Intra-cranial Vascular lesions	12	19
Heart Disease	27	32
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	5	4
Bronchitis	3	4
Pneumonia	3	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	0	1
Ulceration of Stomach and Duodenum	3	0
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	1	0
Appendicitis	1	0
Other Digestive Diseases	3	2
Nephritis	3	4
Puerperal and post-abortion Sepsis	0	0
Other Maternal Causes	0	0
Premature Birth	1	1
Congenital Malformations, Birth injuries and infantile Diseases	4	0
Suicide	0	0
Road Traffic Accidents	1	2
Other Violent Causes	3	3
All other Causes	13	13
All Causes	107	108

Section B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

(i)—PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:—

1. *Medical Superintendent* of the Isolation Hospital at Steppingley—Dr. Van Langenberg, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. London (Part-time Officer).
2. *Medical Officer of Health*—Dr. W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., D.M.R.E. Cambs., D.P.H. Cambs. (part time to your Authority, but devotes whole time to duties of Medical Officer of Health).
3. *Sanitary Inspector*—Mr. T. A. Hawtin, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I. (whole time duties to this Council, and also Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector to Ampthill Urban District Council).
4. *Additional Sanitary Inspector*—Mr. R. W. Johnson, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.
5. *Surveyor*—Mr. C. A. Lewis, A.M. Inst. M. & Cy. E., M.R. San. I.
6. *Matron* of the Isolation Hospital at Steppingley—Miss E. C. Bardell.

(ii) (a)—LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Pathological specimens are examined at the Bedford County Hospital.

The following were examined this year:—

Diphtheria Swabs, 120.
Haemolytic Streptococci 12.

(b)—AMBULANCE FACILITIES—

(a) For Infectious Cases.

A motor Ambulance is kept at the Steppingley Isolation Hospital.

(b) For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.

A Public Ambulance is kept at the Bedford Fire Station and is available for your District. The Station can be communicated with by telephone. The 'phone number is 2222. Another Ambulance, under the control of the British Red Cross is kept at Dunstable, 'phone number 158.

Judging from the experience of previous years, the present arrangements appear to be quite adequate for the needs of the district. In the event of an extra Ambulance being required in an emergency, there is an understanding with neighbouring Authorities that their Ambulances would be available.

(c)—PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

General.—The Bedfordshire Nursing Association supplies 11 Nurses to 19 Parishes in your District. These Nurses attend Midwifery, Maternity cases and Medical and Surgical cases. They are not allowed to attend any infectious disease. The local Association for each area employing a Nurse, supervises her work and provides her salary, which is raised by voluntary subscriptions and small fees paid by non-members of the local Association.

The following villages are supplied with Nurses :—

Aspley Guise –	Nurse	Davies	Shillington – –	Nurse	McEnroe
Husborne Crawley	,,	,,	Marston Moretaine	,,	Alcock
Aspley Heath –	,,	Faulkner	Millbrook –	,,	Bishop
Cranfield, Salford and Hulcote –	,,	Cordery, S.R.N.	Maulden – –	,,	Wagstaff
Silsoe – –	,,	Little	Tingrith – –	,,	Maxwell
Flitton – –	,,	,,	Woburn, Eversholt, Ridgmont and Milton Bryan –	,,	Baynham
Flitwick – –	,,	Kendal, S.R.N.			
Steppingley – –	,,	,,			
Gravenhurst – –	,,	McEnroe			

Infectious Diseases.—There is an Isolation Hospital at Steppingley which takes in cases of Infectious disease. Your Authority does not provide nursing in the home for these cases.

MIDWIVES.

There are 10 Midwives who have notified their intention to practise in your district, including those employed by the Nursing Association. They are Supervised by a Committee appointed by the County Council.

(*d*)—CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

These are undertaken by the County Council.

The Infant Welfare Clinics are held at the Ampthill Public Assistance Institution every Friday, at 2.30 p.m., at the Congregational School Room every other Thursday at 10 a.m. ; at the Memorial Hall, Cranfield, on every other Tuesday at 10 a.m. ; at the Methodist School, Marston, every other Thursday at 10 a.m. ; at The Town Hall, Woburn, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 2.30 p.m.

The Venereal Disease Clinic is held at the Bedford County Hospital, Ampthill Road entrance. The times the Medical Officer attends, are Wednesday 5—7 p.m. and Fridays 3—5 p.m.

The Tuberculosis Clinic is held every Wednesday at 2.0 p.m., at the Dispensary, Dent Road, Ivy Road, Bedford.

(*e*)—HOSPITALS.

Hospital	Situation	Purpose	No. of Beds	Medical Staff	Management
Isolation Hospital – –	Steppingley	Infectious Diseases	24	1	L.A.
Tuberculosis Sanatorium –	Mogerhanger	Tuberculosis –	84	1	C.C.
Beds. County Hospital –	Bedford	General Medical & Surgical, Maternity and Children –	134	Voluntary	
S. Peter's Hospital – –	Bedford	General Medical & Surgical, Maternity and Children –	104	1	C.C.
Public Assistance Institution	Ampthill	Chronic Sick –	54	1	C.C.
Children's Home – –	Kempston	Children – –	45	1	C.C.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Public Health Act 1890. Part III. Sec. 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 23, 25, 26 (2), 28, 32, 33, 48 & 49.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907.

Part II, Sec. 15, 16, 17 (Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath, Flitwick and Maulden).

Sec. 20, 29, 33 (Whole District).

Part III, Sec. 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 43, 44, 45, 46
Part IV, Sec. 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 6~, 66, 67 } Whole District.

BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS.

New Streets and Buildings. Slaughter Houses. Drainage of Existing Buildings.

Water Regulations and Charges.

Section C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.—WATER.

The majority of the District is now supplied with water from the public mains. Bacteriological examination is made every three months from three sources in the District.

I am giving a list of parishes supplied, their source of supply, and three Analyses. The following parishes have a piped supply :—

Parishes	*Source of Supply*
Aspley Guise	Birchmoor
Aspley Heath	Birchmoor
Clophill	Ampthill U.D.C.
Cranfield	Birchmoor
Eversholt	Birchmoor
Flitton	Birchmoor
Flitwick	Birchmoor
Gravenhurst	Birchmoor
Harlington	Birchmoor
Haynes	Ampthill U.D.C.
Hulcote and Salford	Birchmoor
Houghton Conquest	Birchmoor
Husborne Crawley	Duke of Bedford's own supply
Lidlington	Birchmoor and Springs at Lidlington
Marston Moretaine	Birchmoor
Maulden	Ampthill U.D.C.
Millbrook	Birchmoor
Milton Bryan	Birchmoor
Pulloxhill	Birchmoor
Ridgmont	Duke of Bedford's own supply and Birchmoor
Shillington	Birchmoor
Silsoe	Birchmoor
Steppingley	Birchmoor
Tingrith	Birchmoor
Westoning	Birchmoor
Woburn	Birchmoor

RAINFALL.

The station at which the rainfall is taken is Woburn. The diameter of the funnel of the rain gauge is 8 inches. Height above the ground is 12 inches. Altitude is 291 feet above sea level. Latitude 52° 1' N. Longitude 0° 35' W.

WOBURN.

		Greatest Rainfall in 24 hours.		No. of days with .01 in or more	No. of days with .04 in. or more	At GREAT BARFORD.	
	Total	Inches	Date			Total in Inches.	*Wet Days
January	1.34	0.30	11	13	8	1.34	15
February	1.09	0.33	6	17	8	1.23	17
March	0.20	0.06	29	9	1	.14	6
April	2.52	1.09	3	10	7	2.30	11
May	1.94	1.34	13	9	4	1.01	6
June	1.59	0.35	1	17	10	1.44	16
July	2.00	0.44	13	13	11	1.36	10
August	2.20	0.74	24	11	6	1.95	9
September	1.99	0.38	4	14	9	2.15	13
October	3.15	0.36	17	20	15	2.69	19
November	3.33	0.53	17	21	18	3.02	21
December	0.98	0.35	16	10	5	.80	10
Total	22.33			164	102	19.43	153

*That is, days with .01 inches or more.

RAINFALL IN PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Woburn.	Great Barford.	England & Wales.
1935	26.13	24.57	40.14
1936	27.74	27.08	38.5
1937	30.62	29.93	39.1
1938	20.84	19.70	35.6
1939	29.89	25.51	40.3
1940	27.60	21.35	35.6
1941	25.52	22.11	33.8
1942	19.49	18.69	35.9
1943	19.09	16.07	33.4
1944	22.33	19.43	35.3

I wish to express my thanks to Dr. Mann, of the Woburn Experimental Farm, and also to Mr. Arnold Whitehurch, of Great Barford, for supplying me with the above rainfalls.

Report of the Surveyor and Engineer.

WATER SUPPLY.

DISTRICT SCHEME.

19*th July*, 1945.

Further consideration has been given to the question of the lay-out of the general district scheme and in particular in relation to the looping of the northern supply area with the southern supply area in order to provide loop feed mains.

This matter is still under consideration owing to certain difficult problems which arise by reason of the small sizes of the existing mains near points of inter-connection.

Secondly consideration has been given to the question of the future supply to these areas which at the present time suffer from some interruption of supply and general decrease in pressure at times of heavy demand in the lower areas and in particular the districts concerned are the villages of Harlington, Pulloxhill, with the possible inclusion of the villages of Haynes and Cranfield.

The preliminary report has been made to the Council on this problem and it has been suggested that the future lay-out of the distribution services might include for the provision of four water towers of varying capacity to serve the four distinct portions of the district which are likely to suffer mostly from the lack of pressure during periods of heavy demand.

The Council have generally agreed in principle to these proposals and these will form the basis of a report on the distribution which is being prepared by the consultants, Messrs. Binnie, Deacon & Gourley of Westminster.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The question of the provision of a system of sewers in the villages throughout the Council's area has been under review and a programme of urgency has been drafted which it is proposed should form the basis for the future planning of this service.

Firstly, it is considered that the area in the centre of the district comprising the villagers of Harlington, Westoning and Flitwick in particular should receive the first consideration and that provisions should be made in such scheme for the ultimate inclusion of the village of Steppingley together with the Isolation Hospital.

It will be observed that the principle being followed is to group a number of villages to one disposal works in order to provide more efficient management of such works and it is upon such basis that the Council is considering future proposals for sewerage.

Messrs. Binnie, Deacon & Gourley, the Council's consultants, have been instructed to proceed immediately with the preparation of a scheme for these villages with a view to this being lodged with the Ministry of Health at the earliest moment and work is now proceeding on the final stages in this preparation.

It is considered that when the foregoing scheme has been submitted to the Ministry of Health then consideration can be given to the grouping of a further group of villages and in this connection the Council have instructed that the area comprising the parishes of Flitton, Pulloxhill, Silsoe, Clophill and Maulden should be examined with a view to their being drained to one disposal works.

Following the preparation of schemes for these areas, then consideration will be given to the provision of sewage schemes for the parishes of Shillington, including the hamlet of Lower Stondon and the parishes of Marston and Lidlington.

HOUSING.

During the year under review the completion of the two agricultural workers' houses at Pulloxhill and of the two agricultural workers' houses at Marston has been achieved.

Following conferences at Cambridge and Luton with regard to the post war housing sites and grouping of authorities for the advanced preparation of the sites, the Council agreed to enter the Luton group.

In the framing of proposals for the first two years' programme the Council decided to concentrate their proposals on to four large sites and enter into negotiations for the purchase of lands for this purpose in the parishes of Maulden, Flitwick, Westoning and Shillington.

Lay-outs for these four villages have been prepared, three of which have been approved by the Ministry's Regional Officers and the fourth is ready for submission for approval.

These lay-outs relate to the provision of permanent type houses and with regard to the provision of temporary dwellings and the Council made application to the Minister of Health for a number of these and a total of fifty were allocated to the district.

In the siting of these temporary dwellings regard was had to the Circular of the Ministry of Health which stated that consideration should be given to the placing of these in villages where main drainage, gas and electricity services were available; accordingly the Council decided to place 26 houses in Aspley Guise and 24 in the village of Flitwick.

Negotiations are now in hand for the purchasing of the necessary land in Aspley Guise for the purpose.

TOWN PLANNING.

The Council is a member of the North Beds. Joint Advisory Town Planning Committee.

During the year preliminary proposals were submitted to the above Committee indicating proposed open space reservations, together with proposals relating to the protection of trees and woodlands.

The Council were informed that the Beds. County Council had under consideration the question of mineral workings throughout the County and the Council submitted a report to the County Council on this matter and also have presented a report to the North Beds. Joint Advisory Town Planning Committee on the same subject.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1944.

SECTION C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER.

Twenty-one parishes are supplied with mains water from the Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath and Woburn Sands Joint Committee's Waterworks at Aspley Guise, three from the Ampthill Urban District Council's Waterworks at Clophill, and two from the Duke of Bedford's Waterworks at Husborne Crawley.

All the mains are owned by the Council with the exception of those in the two parishes supplied by the Duke of Bedford.

Of the three very small parishes not yet receiving a piped supply, Higham Gobion has been noted for early post-war attention, and Potsgrove and Battlesden, comprising 44 houses between them, will receive attention in due course. Pegsdon, an outlying hamlet of Shillington, is also to have a post-war extension from the Shillington main.

i (a) and **i** (b). Houses dependent on wells have this year in several cases in varying parts of the district had water of poor quality and short supply.

The Council's piped supply has been excellent in quality, but owing to unavoidable difficulties at the pumping station at Aspley Guise, it was found necessary on some 156 days to shut off the supply for twelve hours per day.

(ii) No samples are taken by this Council of raw water from the waterworks. The Clerk to the Joint Committee has, however, supplied the following reports of Chemical and Bacteriological examinations of water from the Aspley Guise well :

THE COUNTIES PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES,
91, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, E.C.4.

Analysis of a sample of water received on 2nd May, 1945, from Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath and Woburn Sands Drainage and Water Supply Joint Committee. Labelled No. 1 Well—Sample Tap at Pump. Date 1/5/45. 2.10 p.m.

Chemical Results in parts per 100,000.

Appearance—Bright with very few particles of mineral debris.
Turbidity—Less than 5 parts per million, Silica Scale.
Colour—Normal.
Re-action ph Acid—5.8.
Electric Conductivity at 20° *C.*—120.
Chlorine as Chlorides—1.8.
Hardness—Total 3.5.
Nitrogen in Nitrates—0.26.
Free Ammonia—0.0000.
Albuminoid Ammonia—0.0000.
Oxygen Absorbed in 4 *hrs. at* 27° *C.*—0.000.
Metals—Iron : Less than 0.003. Other Metals absent.
Odour—Nil.
Free Carbonic Acid—3.4.
Total Solids, dried at 180° *C.*—8.0.
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate—1.5.
Temporary—0.0. *Permanent*—3.5.
Nitrogen in Nitrites—Absent.
Ammoniacal Nitrogen— —
Albuminoid Nitrogen— —

Bacteriological Results.

Number of " Bacteria " growing on Agar per cc. or ml. in 1 day at 37° C.—0. 2 days at 37° C.—0. 3 days at 20° C.—0.

Presumptive Coliform Reaction	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.
Bact. Coli.	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.
Cl. Welchii Reaction	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is acid in reaction, soft in character and has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents in solution. It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes. Treatment is required to render the water non-corrosive towards metals.

(*Signed*) CHARLES W. MARTIN, F.R.I.C. GORDON MILES, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Analysis of a sample of water received on 2nd May, 1945, from Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath and Woburn Sands Drainage and Water Supply Joint Committee; labelled No. 2 Borehole Sample Tap at Pump. Date: 1/5/45. 2.10 p.m.

Chemical Results in parts per 100,000.

Appearance—Bright with very few particles of mineral debris.
Turbidity—Less than 5 parts per million, Silica Scale.
Colour—Normal.
Reaction ph Acid—5.8.
Electric Conductivity at 20° *C.*—155.
Chlorine in Chlorides—1.8.
Hardness Total—5.0.
Nitrogen in Nitrates—0.32.
Free Ammonia—0.0000.
Albuminoid Ammonia—0.0000.
Oxygen Absorbed in 4 *hrs. at* 27° *C.*—0.0000.
Metals—Iron: 0.005. Other metals absent.
Odour—Nil.
Free Carbonic Acid—3.9.
Total Solids, dried at 180° *C.*—10.5.
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate—1.7.
Temporary—0.0. *Permanent*—5.0.
Nitrogen in Nitrites— —
Albuminoid Nitrogen— —

Bacteriological Results.

Number of "Bacteria" growing on Agar in 1 day at 37° C.—1. 2 days at 37° C.—2. 3 days at 20° C.—2.

Presumptive Coliform Reaction	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.
Bact. Coli	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.
Cl. Welchii Reaction	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is acid in reaction, soft in character and has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents in solution. It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

Treatment is required to render the water non-corrosive towards metals.

(*Signed*) CHARLES W. MARTIN, F.R.I.C. GORDON MILES, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Report on the Bacteriological Examination of a sample of water received 29/8/44 from Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath and Woburn Sands Drainage and Water Supply; Labelled No. 1 Birchmoor Pumping Station—Sample tap at pump well supply. Date 28/8/44. 9 a.m.

Number of "Bacteria" growing on Agar per cc. or ml. in 1 day at 37° C.—1. 2 days at 37° C.—3. 3 days at 20° C.—24.

Presumptive Coliform Reaction	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.
Bact. Coli.	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.
Cl. Welchii Reaction	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance and of very satisfactory bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for the purposes of a public supply.

(*Signed*) E. V. SUCKLING.

Report on the Bacteriological Examination of a sample of Water received 29/8/44 from Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath and Woburn Sands Drainage and Water Supply; Labelled No. 2 Birchmoor Pumping Station—Borehole Supply.

Number of "Bacteria" growing on Agar per cc. or ml. in 1 day at 37° C.—3. 2 days at 37° C.—5. 3 days at 20° C.—60.

Presumptive Coliform Reaction	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.
Bact. Coli.	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.
Cl. Welchii Reaction	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance and of very satisfactory bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for the purposes of a public supply.

(*Signed*) E. V. SUCKLING.

Four samples were submitted for bacteriological analysis from the Aspley supply, taken from different points of the main. In each case the Analyst reported "results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes."

A typical Analysis was:—

THE COUNTIES PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES,
91, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, E.C. 4.

BEALE & SUCKLING.

Report on the Bacteriological Examination of a sample of water received 26/7/44; Labelled 28, Millbrook, Beds. Tap over sink direct from main. Date 25/7/44. 8.30 a.m.

No. of "Bacteria" growing on Agar per cc. or ml. in 1 day at 37° C.—3. 2 days at 37° C.—7. 3 days at 20° C.—40.

Presumptive Coliform Reaction	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.
Bact. Coli.	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.
Cl. Welchii Reaction.	Present —, Absent 100 c.c.

This sample has faint opalescence and slight deposit but is not unduly turbid and is of satisfactory bacteriological purity. These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

Three samples for bacteriological analysis were taken from the mains supplied by the Clophill Waterworks.

The following is a copy of the report on one:—

No. of "Bacteria" growing on Agar per ml. in 1 day at 37° C.—0. 2 days at 37° C.—4. 3 days at 20° C.—10.

Presumptive Coliform Reaction, Bact. Coli., and Cl. Welchii Reaction all absent in 100 c.c.

(iii) The Aspley Guise water is very soft (5°) with a ph. figure of **5.7** and is liable to have plumbo-solvent action. The Council's regulations, however, do not permit lead pipe to be used for this water. The Clophill well supply is not liable to have a plumbo-solvent action.

(iv) There being no evidence of contamination, no action was found to be necessary.

(v) 4,620 dwellinghouses are supplied with water from piped mains out of a total of **6,159.** The proportion of dwellinghouses and population is therefore 75 per cent.

(a) All the above are supplied mainly direct to the houses, but in some cases there are private standpipes in yards, supplying two or more cottages.

(b) With the exception of the parish of Lidlington, in which there is a small piped supply fed by a spring with seven standposts in the streets, there are no public standpipes.

The homes using the Lidlington public standpipes have not been included in the proportion quoted above.

The Council has under consideration the making of Aspley Guise water available to all consumers on the Lidlington spring supply, which will then be abandoned.

1. (ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The three parishes of Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath and Woburn have complete sewerage, with disposal works.

Consulting Engineers have been appointed, and are pressing forward with the scheme for Flitwick, Westoning and Harlington, with the probable addition of Steppingley, for which the site for the Disposal Works at Flitwick has been acquired.

Work continues on the second scheme for the parishes of Maulden, Clophill, Silsoe, Flitton and Pulloxhill.

When these nine parishes have been completed, twelve of the twenty nine will be sewered, and attention will then be turned to the remaining seventeen.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No action has been necessary.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath and Woburn have water carriage systems and with the exception of a few out-lying properties, the houses have water closets.

In the remaining parishes, the larger houses have water closets draining to cesspools or similar means of disposal. The cottages have pail closets, except for a few isolated cases of privy type closets which have not yet been converted.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Fortnightly collections of house refuse continue by direct labour at Woburn, Flitwick, Westoning, Harlington, Aspley Heath and Aspley Guise.

Quarterly visits are made to the remaining parishes to collect indestructible refuse. A motor refuse collecting vehicle is used. Paper, textiles and bones are salvaged, the salvaging of metals and rubber having been discontinued.

Cesspools and closet pails in Flitwick, Westoning and Harlington continue to be emptied by direct labour with motor cesspool emptier and this service has now been extended to the parish of Lidlington.

3. (iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Summary of Sanitary and other defects reported on during the year :—

Premises with Defective and Insanitary Closets	26
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, Drains	33
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, Cesspools	18
,, ,, ,, Roofs, Chimneys and Spouting ..	44
,, ,, ,, Windows and Insufficient Light and Ventilation	10
,, ,, ,, Walls, Floors, etc.	10
,, ,, ,, Water Supply	28
,, ,, ,, Ashbins	3
Dirty Premises	4
Damp Premises	7
Overcrowded Dwellings	3
Other Dilapidations	34

Unsound Meat and Food	60
Nuisance from Animal keeping	1
Nuisance from Rats and Vermin	22
Accumulations of Offensive Matter	73
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	3
Rooms Disinfected for Scarlet Fever	28
,, ,, ,, Diphtheria	16
,, ,, ,, Erysipelas	2
,, ,, ,, Paratyphoid	1
,, ,, ,, Cancer	3
,, ,, ,, Tuberculosis	1
,, ,, ,, Other Diseases	3
Schools Disinfected	1
Houses Disinfested for Bed-bugs, Lice, etc.	6
Number of Statutory Notices Served	11
,, ,, Informal ,, ,, ...	212
,, ,, Defective Premises	310

3. (iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES.

During the year inspections were made under the Shops Act, 1934, and in every case the provisions of the Act were complied with. In this Rural District 95 per cent of the shops are small shops and houses combined and these are managed without any assistants. With regard to Circular 1600, dealing with offices, no action has been found necessary.

3. (v) CAMPING SITES.

(1) Number of sites used for Camping during 1944 ..	10
(2) ,, ,, ,, Licenced under Section 269 Public Health Act, 1936	6
(3) Estimated number of Campers resident in the area at one time during the summer Season ..	25

3. (vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action was found necessary.

3. (vii) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

(a) *Public.*

There are no pools belonging to a Local Authority.

(b) *Privately owned and open to the public.*

Eversholt.—A small open-air pool, fed by a brook. The water is changed at intervals. School children in the parish are admitted free, and a small charge is made for adults.

Husborne Crawley.—This open-air bath of 60,000 gallons is emptied every fourteen days and filled from the village water supply. During the interval of emptying it is sprayed with a chlorine solution to prevent vegetable growth.

Private Swimming Pools.

Hawnes School, Haynes Park. This open-air pool, situated in the park, is fed by a spring, giving a continuous flow.

The Knoll, Aspley Heath. A small pool, fed from the main water supply. Water is changed at intervals of approximately two weeks.

3. (viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

1. a One Council House was found to be infested.
   b (1) Five other houses were found to be infested and
   (2) disinfested by the Council.
2. The houses and furniture were sprayed with "Zaldeeide" or fumigated with "Lawes Block Disinfestators."
3. To ensure belongings of tenants are free from vermin, these are inspected before removal to Council Houses.
4. Disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority.
5. Measures to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing are re-inspection, supervision and advice.

Section D. HOUSING.

The tenancies of three Council houses have changed during the year. 120 Premises have been visited in House to House Inspections. Four complaints regarding excessive rents were investigated, no action was recommended in two, one was adjourned, and a reduction arranged in the fourth.

Three claims in respect of damage by evacuees have been investigated and settled.

Permitted numbers in respect of 12 houses have been supplied to applicants. Owners were notified of lack of details in rent book in two cases.

Section E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

There are 168 premises registered, and six retailers from premises outside the District, making a total of 174 on the register, 110 wholesale and 64 retail. Fifteen retailers have dairies but keep no cows.

Defects at 22 cowsheds and 8 dairies were noted and rectified. The average number of cows milked is approximately 2,268.

One retailer outside the district has a supplementary Licence to sell Pasteurised Milk.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

100 lbs. Soya Meal, 182 lbs. Cake, 8 lbs. Jam, 358 lbs. Beef, 43 lbs. Pork, 8¼ lbs. Liver, 1,463 lbs. Venison, 225 lbs. Bacon and Ham, 174 Eggs, 111 lbs. Cheese, 18 tins Milk, 27 tins Meat, and 64 tins of other foods have been condemned.

Twenty carcases of Pork and 331 of Venison have been inspected and passed.

Two slaughterhouse licences have been renewed, and four licences to slaughter and stun.

Defects were noted and rectified at five bakehouses.

THOS. A. HAWTIN,

Sanitary Inspector.

July, 1945.

THE SANITATION AND WATER SUPPLY OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

SCHOOL	Church of England or Council	No. of Pupils on Roll	Average Attendance	Type of Closet	Boys	Girls	Infants	Disposal of Excreta	Drinking Water
Aspley Guise	Council	75	65	W.C.	2	3	1	Sewer	Main
Aspley Heath	Council	276	235	,,	3	5	3	Sewer	Main
Clophill	C. of E.	113	102	E.C.	4	5	2	Removed weekly	Main
Cranfield	C. of E.	259	213	,,	5	6	0	Buried twice weekly	Main
Eversholt	Council	40	35	,,	2	2	1	3 times weekly	Main
Flitwick (Mixed)	Council	136	122	,,	3	6	0	Removed twice weekly	Main
Flitwick (Junior)	Council	76	67	,,			4	Removed twice weekly	Main
Gravenhurst (Junior)	Council	40	34	,,	1	2	1	Pails emptied twice weekly	Main
Greenfield	C. of E.	53	46	,,	2	3	0	Removed twice weekly	Main
Harlington	Council	48	44	,,	3	3	2	Sanitary cart once weekly	Main
Haynes	Council	80	71	,,	2	2	1	Drying Shed twice weekly	Main
Houghton Conquest	Council	69	50	,,	3	3	2	Drying Shed Removed weekly	Main
Husborne Crawley	Council	13	12	,,	2	2	0	Buried 3 times weekly	Main
Lidlington	Council	70	61	,,	2	4		Drying Shed removed weekly	Main
Marston Mortaine	Council	83	72	,,	2	2	0	Removed twice weekly	Main
Marston Shelton	Council	60	54	,,	2	3		Removed once weekly	Main
Maulden	Council	176	159	,,	3	3	3	Drying Shed twice weekly	Main
Millbrook	Council	13	11	,,	1	2	1	Buried twice weekly	Main
Milton Bryan	C. of E.	17	15	,,	2	1	1	Buried twice weekly	Main
Pulloxhill	C. of E.	26	24	,,	1	2		Removed daily	Main
Ridgmont	Council	117	100	,,	2	3		Removed 3 times weekly	Main
Salford & Hulcote	C. of E.	19	16	,,	2	2		Removed weekly	Main
Shillington	Council	107	93	,,	1	2	1	Drying Shed twice weekly	Main
Silsoe	C. of E.	47	44	,,	2	2	1	Buried twice weekly	Main
Steppingley	Council	16	13	,,	2	2	1	Buried weekly	Main
Lower Stondon	Council	73	61	,,	2	2	2	Drying Shed 3 times weekly	Main
Tingrith	C. of E.	31	29	,,	1	2		Removed twice weekly	Main
Westoning	Council	65	60	,,	3	3	2	Removed twice weekly	Main
Woburn	Council	63	55	W.C.	2	2	1	Sewer	Main

SCHOOL CLOSURES.

Ridgmont C. Junior 27/11/44 (afternoon only) to 2/12/44.

Section F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The Steppingley Isolation Hospital receives cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, and other diseases in certain emergencies from your district, and from the Urban District of Ampthill.

Number of patients on 1st January, 1944 :—

Scarlet Fever 3, Diphtheria 1.

Admissions :—

Scarlet Fever 27, Diphtheria 16, Erysipelas 2, Other cases 9.

Discharges :—

Scarlet Fever 26, Diphtheria 11, Erysipelas 2, Other cases 9.

Deaths :—Nil.

Number of cases in Hospital on 31st December, 1944 :—

Scarlet Fever 4, Diphtheria 6.

In 1938, your Council erected a Cubicle Block in the Hospital grounds with accommodation for four beds. This Block was found to be most useful and often obviated the necessity of opening up and maintaining one of the larger wards for an odd case of infection, thereby saving labour and expense. Your Council have during the year considered the advisability of the number of cubicles. I suggested that the Typhoid Block could be turned into another Cubicle Block with four beds. This matter is now under consideration.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever.—Thirty-one cases were notified. Twenty-seven treated in the Isolation Hospital. Nineteen were between the ages of 3-10 years. Thirteen parishes were affected ; the greatest number (10) were in the parish of Aspley Guise.

Diphtheria.—Seventeen cases were notified, all except one were removed to the Isolation Hospital. The ages were as follows : (a) Under five years, no cases. (b) From five to fifteen years, 9 cases, three of whom had been immunised over twelve weeks ago. (c) Fifteen and over, 8 cases, none of whom had been immunised. No deaths had occurred.

Pneumonia.—Fourteen cases were notified, occurring in six different parishes. There were five deaths.

Erysipelas.—Eight cases were reported, no deaths registered.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—Two cases were notified. Both recovered.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.—One case was notified and recovered.

Measles.—Thirty-two were notified. None of them was treated in the Isolation Hospital. All recovered.

Whooping Cough.—Thirteen cases were notified. None treated in the Isolation Hospital. Two died.

ARTIFICIAL IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

A number of children have been immunised against Diphtheria during the year under review, and during previous years.

I give details below ; the children are divided into two groups :—

1. Children of School age.
2. Children under School age.

1. Children of School Age.

Number on School Rolls on Jan. 1st, 1944	2,446
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, Dec. 31st, 1944	2,416
Number of children immunised on Jan. 1st, 1944 ..	2,196
,, ,, ,, ,, during the year	96
Total of immunised children	2,292
Deduct approximate number of immunised children who had left the school during the year	364
	1,928
Add approximate number of immunised children who have reached the age of 5 years	100
The number immunised on Dec. 31st, 1944	2,028
Percentage of immunised on Jan. 1st, 1944	81.5
,, ,, ,, ,, Dec. 31st, 1944	83.9

I consider these results are satisfactory.

2. Children under School Age.

Estimated Population mid-year, 1944	1,670
Number immunised on Jan. 1st, 1944	480
Number immunised during the year	219
Number of immunised children at end of 1944	699
Deduct 30% of 334 children who have reached the age of 5 during the year	100
Number immunised on Dec. 31st, 1944	599
Percentage of immunised on Jan. 1st	33.2
,, ,, ,, ,, Dec. 31st	35.8

There have been nine cases of Diphtheria among children under fifteen, three of whom had been completely immunised.

No deaths occurred.

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

There was not any outbreak of non-notifiable disease during the year.

CANCER.

34 deaths were registered, 16 males and 18 females. They are tabulated as follows :

Males—

2 cases of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus.
3 ,, ,, Stomach and Duodenum.
1 ,, ,, All other sites.

Females—

1 cases of Uterus.
3 ,, ,, Stomach and Duodenum.
3 ,, ,, Breast.
11 ,, ,, All other sites.

SCABIES ORDER, 1941.

A few cases occurred among the evacuated children ; they were treated at St. Peter's Hospital.

I have also arranged with the Borough of Bedford to cleanse all infected persons at one of their cleansing centres at the cost of 2/- per treatment. As a rule, two treatments are necessary. With regard to the cleansing of clothes and blankets, I instruct the infected person or parent (if a child) to boil all linen, cotton sheets and underclothing and air and iron all blankets and woollen under-garments.

During the year under review fifty-six treatments have been given to twenty nine persons at the Commercial Road Treatment Centre in Bedford.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

Age Period	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Puerpural Pyrexia	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	Malaria	Jaundice	Polio-myelitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Total Cases Notified	31	17	14	8	32	13	2	1	17	29	1	2
Cases admitted to hospital	27	16	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Total Deaths – –	..	..	5	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases under 1 year –	1	..	1	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Deaths ,, ,, –	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases from 1 to 2 years	1	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Deaths ,, ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases ,, 2 ,, 3 ,,	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Deaths ,, ,,	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases ,, 3 ,, 4 ,,	2	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Deaths ,, ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases ,, 4 ,, 5 ,,	..	..	..	..	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Deaths ,, ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases ,, 5 ,, 10 ,,	17	8	1	..	15	2	..	..	..	3	1	..
Deaths ,, ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases ,, 10 ,, 15 ,,	4	1	1	..	3	1	..	..	..	4	..	..
Deaths ,, ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases ,, 15 ,, 20 ,,	2	6	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	..
Deaths ,, ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases ,, 20 ,, 35 ,,	3	2	3	..	..	1	2	1	17	9	..	..
Deaths ,, ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases ,, 35 ,, 45 ,,	1	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..
Deaths ,, ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases ,, 45 ,, 65 ,,	..	..	3	5	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	..
Deaths ,, ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cases 65 & upwards –	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Deaths ,, ,, – –	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

Villages.	Scarlet Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	Erysipelas	Malaria	Whooping Cough	Jaundice	Measles	Polio-myelitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Lidlington – –	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Eversholt – –	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Salford – –	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Woburn – –	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	5	..	..	1
Maulden – –	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Silsoe – –	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Cranfield – –	4	1	1	2	1	1	17	1	10	20	..	..
Tingrith – –	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Clophill – –	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ridgmont – –	1	..	7	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Haynes – –	2	..	..	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Millbrook – –	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Houghton Conquest –	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marston – –	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	2	..	..
Milton Bryan –	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Aspley Guise –	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	7	6	..	..
Pulloxhill – –	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gravenhurst –	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Flitwick – –	4	..	..	5	..	4	..	5	..	..	1	..
Husborne Crawley –	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Harlington –	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westoning – –	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lower Stondon –	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Aspley Heath –	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..
Greenfield – –	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Steppingley –	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Total ..	31	2	17	14	1	8	17	13	29	32	1	2

TUBERCULOSIS—NEW CASES & MORTALITY.

Age Period.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1 year to 5 years ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
5 years to 10 years ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10 years to 15 years ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15 ,, 20 ,, ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
20 ,, 25 ,, ..	1	2+1*	.	..	..	..	..	..
25 ,, 35 ,, ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
35 ,, 45 ,, ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
45 ,, 55 ,, ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
55 ,, 65 ,, ..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
65 ,, and over	1*	1*	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	2+1*	4+2*	1	0	3	1	2	0

* Renotification.

TUBERCULOSIS—NEW CASES & MORTALITY.

Villages.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Flitton	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gravenhurst	1	1*	..	..	..	..	..	..
Woburn	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Haynes	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Houghton Conquest ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Lidlington	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Flitwick	..	1+1*	..	..	..	..	1	..
Aspley Guise	1*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lower Stondon	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Aspley Heath	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westoning	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..
Silsoe	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	2+1*	4+2*	1	0	3	1	2	0

* Renotification.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.—Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 176. This is undertaken by the County Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, and Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

No necessity for action under these regulations arose during the year under review.

All tuberculosis cases have been notified, therefore the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths is Nil.

In conclusion, I wish to take this opportunity of thanking your Clerk, Mr. H. Robinson, and your Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. T. A. Hawtin and Mr. R. W. Johnson, for their valuable help in assisting me to carry out my duties.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. K. PARBURY,

M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Ldn.
D.P.H. Camb., D.M.R.E. Camb.

July, 1945.